



**Rules of the Forsyth County Republican Party**

**As Adopted on March 9, 2019**

## Rules of the Forsyth County Republican Party

### Article One

#### **1. Qualification for Participation in Party Actions:**

- A. All qualified voters under the laws of the State of Georgia, who are registered to vote in Forsyth County, Georgia and are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, believe in its declarations of policy and are in sympathy with its aims and purposes, may participate as members of the Forsyth County Republican Party (the "FCRP") in its conventions or mass meetings. All Chairmen, and members of Committees, Delegates to the Conventions and voters in the mass meetings, provided for in these Rules, shall be members of the Forsyth County Republican Party as defined above, and must be qualified registered resident electors of the respective units which they represent as Chairmen, members, Delegates, or voters in mass meetings, except as provided in the State Rules.
- B. All Chairmen, members of Committees, officers, and all delegates and alternates to the District and State Conventions shall be members of the Forsyth County Republican Party, ("FCRP") as defined in 1.3 below. (Delegates and Alternates to the Forsyth County Convention need only meet the requirements of Section A, above).

#### **2. Publication of Qualifications:**

The qualification for participation in the FCRP shall be published in all official calls for mass meetings and conventions as herein stated and as may hereafter be described by the County Committee and pursuant to the Rules and Call of the District and State Conventions.

#### **3. Membership:**

All those desiring membership in the FCRP shall at first be members of the State Republican Party as defined in the State Rules as published by the Georgia Republican Party and shall then be admitted to full membership in the FCRP upon payment of annual dues the amount of which shall be determined by the County Executive Committee before the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of a calendar year. A declaration of a person's inability to pay shall be accepted in lieu of dues by the County Executive Committee.

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### Article Two

#### **1. County and Precinct Organization:**

The State Election Code refers to "Election Districts" as "Precincts". Only qualified registered resident electors of the Precinct or County, as the case may be, may serve on the respective committees described hereinafter.

#### **2. County Committee and Its Officers and Members:**

- A. There shall be a committee officially known as the "Forsyth County Republican Committee", hereinafter designated as the "County Committee".
- B. The membership of the County Committee shall consist of a County Chairman, a First Vice-Chairman, a Second Vice-Chairman, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and all Precinct Chairmen.
- C. Ex Officio Members shall be considered honorary members of the committee and shall not have a vote and not be counted for a quorum, shall include all Elected Republican Officials representing a geographic area that includes any portion of Forsyth County, the County Parliamentarian, the Chairman of the Forsyth County Young Republicans (if there be any), the Chairwoman of the Forsyth County Federation of Republican Women (if there be any), and any person lawfully registered as a voter in Forsyth County, Georgia that is a member of the State Republican Party Committee.
- D. The County Committee shall exercise county-wide jurisdiction and control over party affairs, as defined by and required by Georgia Election Code or State Party Rules, which powers may in part be delegated, as provided in these and the State rules, to a sub-committee of the County Committee called the County Executive Committee. No member of the County Committee may hold more than one office on said committee.

#### **3. Election of Officers and Members of the County Committee, Delegates/Alternates to Conventions:**

- A. Delegates and alternates to district and state conventions shall be elected by the County Convention at each County Convention, in accordance with State Party Rules. Officers of the FCRP shall be elected by seated delegates at County Conventions that occur on odd numbered years. The term of such offices shall begin at the adjournment of the County Convention and persons elected to such shall hold office for two years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified, unless sooner removed in accordance with these rules.
- B. Anyone attending the County Convention may run for any office of the FCRP, or as a Delegate or Alternate to the District and/or State Conventions. Any person wishing to run for any of the above named offices or positions should present him/herself to the Nominating Committee at or prior to the County Convention to request that his/her name will be placed on the ballot. A nominee need not be present at the Convention to have his/her name

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placed in nomination. Additionally, the Convention shall call for nominations from the floor.

- C. All Offices and positions shall be elected at the Convention by Ballot.
- D. All persons elected to County offices shall, if not already a member, join the FCRP and pay the appropriate dues within 15 days of their election.
- E. Delegates and alternates to the County Convention shall be elected from the various precincts during the Mass Meeting in accordance with State Rules. Precinct officers shall be elected by qualified participants at the Mass Precinct Meetings that occur on odd numbered years. The terms of such offices shall begin at the adjournment of such Mass Precinct Meeting and persons elected to such shall hold office for two years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified, unless sooner removed in accordance with these rules.
- F. Delegates and alternates to District, State and any other Conventions except the County Convention shall be elected by the County Convention in accordance with State Rules.
- G. Any person elected to any position named herein shall agree to perform all the duties and accept all the responsibilities of the office or position to which they have been elected.

#### **4. Duties of County Chairman, Other Officers, Delegates and Alternates:**

- A. The County Chairman shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the County Committee. The County Chairman shall preside, as per the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (except where amended or set aside by the County Committee), at all meetings and activities of the County Committee and County Executive Committee, and in the absence of a Precinct Chairman, shall appoint a presiding officer for the various Precinct Mass Meetings. He/she shall preside as the Chairman of the County Convention until a temporary organization is effected. The County Chairman shall appoint the interim County Convention Committees and their respective chairmen subject to the approval of the County Committee.
- B. The First and/or Second Vice Chairman shall act in the stead of the County Chairman in the event of his/her unavoidable absence from any County Committee meeting or County Executive Committee meeting. Further, the two individuals serving in these positions shall assist the County Chairman in any ways delegated to them by the County Chairman.
- C. The Treasurer will handle all financial matters relating to the business of the FCRP, under the supervision of the County Chairman, shall disburse all funds which have been approved for disbursement by the County Committee, and will also serve as a member and/or Chairman of the Fundraising Committee.
- D. The Recording Secretary has the principal duty to take full and complete minutes of every County Committee meeting and County Executive

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Committee meeting, to transcribe these minutes and otherwise prepare them for presentation at the appropriate occasions. The Recording Secretary will also perform other duties as assigned by the County Chairman from time to time.

- E. The Corresponding Secretary has the principal duty to handle all correspondence and mailings for the County Committee and County Executive Committee, and to otherwise perform such duties as may be assigned by the County Chairman from time to time.
- F. The Precinct Chairman's responsibilities are to serve the interest and needs of their respective precincts, and to represent those interests and needs to the County Committee as a whole. Further, they are to actively recruit other Republicans living within their precinct to become more active within FCRP affairs. Additionally, they are to perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the County Chairman from time to time.
- G. The duties of the Chairman of the Forsyth County Young Republicans and the Chairwoman of the Forsyth County Federation of Republican Women, respectively, is to represent the interest and needs of their organizations within the County Committee and County Executive Committee, to give guidance to and advice to the Executive Committee as to the wishes to those groups, and to otherwise assist in the handling to the needs of the FCRP.
- H. The duties of the Delegates to the District and State Conventions are of a short lived but extremely important nature. They also have some very specific responsibilities of the FCRP at the District and State level. Their jobs are not to be taken lightly. These duties and responsibilities include:
  - i. Attendance at the Convention to which they have been delegated.
  - ii. Attendance at a briefing session, to be held under the auspices of either the FCRP, the Forsyth County Federation of Republican Women, or the Forsyth County Young Republicans, prior to the Convention to which they have been delegated.
  - iii. Becoming otherwise well-informed on candidates and issues which will be brought before the Convention to which they have been delegated, most particularly, those agenda items on which they will be expected to cast a vote.
  - iv. Caucusing within their delegation at the convention prior to rendering any votes which the FCRP delegation casts at said convention.
  - v. Actively supporting local, state and national candidates chosen at any Convention.
  - vi. Reporting back to the County Committee a full report of all that transpired at the Convention to which they have been delegated.
- I. The duties of Alternates to the District and State Convention is in no way less than the Duties of the Delegates as outlined above. Additionally, their duties are to be completely prepared to step in and replace any Delegate who is either absent from the Convention to which they are an Alternate.

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### **5. Duties of the County Committee, Contests and Appeals:**

- A. The County Committee shall call the County Convention and the Mass Precinct Meetings, make arrangements therefore, fix the basis of representation by Delegate to the County Convention, and the time and the place for holding the County Convention consistent with the State Rules and the State Call. It shall cooperate with the State Committee and the District Committee in conducting all elections within its boundaries.
- B. It shall further take all necessary actions and responsibility to exercise county-wide jurisdiction and control over party affairs, as defined by and required by Georgia Election Code or State Party Rules.

### **6. The County Executive Committee:**

- A. There shall be a sub-committee officially known as the "Forsyth County Republican Executive Committee", hereinafter designated as the "Executive Committee".
- B. The membership of the Executive Committee shall consist of a County Chairman, a First Vice-Chairman, a Second Vice-Chairman, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, and a Corresponding Secretary.
- C. Ex Officio Members shall be considered honorary members of the committee, shall not have a vote, shall not be counted for a quorum, and shall include the County Parliamentarian, the Chairman of the Forsyth County Young Republicans (if there be any) and the Chairwoman of the Forsyth County Federation of Republican Women (if there be any).
- D. The Executive Committee shall be the executive arm of the County Committee in exercising county-wide jurisdiction and control over party affairs, as defined and required by Georgia Election Code or State Party Rules. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for carrying out all those functions of the County Committee not requiring under the State Rules a meeting, quorum, or vote of the full County Committee.

### **7. Precinct Committeemen:**

Unless Precinct Committeemen have been elected at Precinct Mass Meetings as hereinafter provided, the County Committee may elect such Precinct Committeemen as the business of the Party may require. Each precinct Committee shall elect its own Chairman and such other officers as it deems necessary.

### **8. Meeting of the County, Executive, and Precinct Committees:**

Meetings of the County, Executive and precinct Committees shall be held upon written notice, transmitted either by mail, fax or electronic format at least ten (10) days in advance, on the call of the Chairman of the respective committee or on the call of one-third (1/3) of the members thereof. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once monthly, the County

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Committee at least once quarterly and the Precinct Committees at least once annually.

There shall be no secret ballot votes taken by the County Committee.

### **9. Quorum of County, Executive and Precinct Committees:**

A majority of the voting members of the County, Executive and each precinct Committee, in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business for the respective committee.

### **10. Proxies:**

Members of the County, Executive, and Precinct Committees may be represented in official matters by proxy, provided, however, that proxies may be given only to a member of the particular committee for which it is intended and may provide for power of substitution of any member of such committee and not more than two proxies may be held by any one member. Proxies shall be in the form designated by the State Rules.

### **11. Removal From Office of County, Executive and Precinct Officers and Committeemen by Their Own Committee:**

A. Any officer or member of the County or Precinct Committee may be removed from office, for cause, by his respective committee by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members of a such committee at any duly called meeting at the respective committee, provided, however that such individual be given written notice of such meeting mailed at least 32 days in advance thereof, setting the grounds therefore, and is given an opportunity to be present, and to be heard in person and/or by any representative of his or her choice.

“Cause” as used herein shall include continued failure to perform the duties of the office, or to participate in the affairs of the Party, or as determined by the aforesaid vote of the respective Committee.

B. Executive Committee members, being a sub-committee of the County Committee, can only be removed by the County Committee, pursuant to letter A of this section.

C. As soon as any officer or member of the County Committee qualifies to run in a Primary Election for public office, he/she shall deemed to have resigned his/her position within the County Committee.

D. Any individual of the County or Precinct Committee will be assumed to have resigned if they have not attended in person or by proxy three consecutive duly called meetings within a 365 calendar day period with written notice after the second consecutive meeting.

### **12. Vacancies in Officers of County, Executive, and Precinct Committees:**

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Vacancies created by death, resignation, removal from office, or other cause of any County and/or Precinct Chairman, officers, or Committee members shall be filled by a majority vote of a quorum present of the voting members of the respective committee.

### **13. Order of Succession:**

The order of succession for the FCRP Executive Committee shall be as follows: Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary until such time as a successor is elected per these rules.

### **14. Actions of the Committees:**

Generally, actions of the County, Executive, and Precinct Committees require the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum present at a duly called meeting. However, special votes, limited to resolutions of position, censure, and removal from office, require the affirmative vote of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members of the respective committee.

## **Article Three**

### **1. The Call:**

The State Executive Committee publishes and issues an official Call, in each odd-numbered year and each presidential Election Year, for the purpose of calling Precinct Mass meetings in each of the Precincts throughout the State of Georgia, which then elects Delegates and Alternates as set for in the Call, to County Conventions to be held in each of the Counties. Said call shall be issued a reasonable time prior to the date set for the Precinct Mass Meetings and includes a specification of all forms to be signed by any participant. The County Convention in odd-numbered years elects officers and organizes the Party in respective Counties for the next two years, and in both odd-numbered and Presidential Election Years elects Delegates and Alternates, as set forth in the call, to the Congressional District and State Conventions. The County Chairman and the County Committee shall be responsible for abiding by the call in all aspects.

### **2. The County Convention:**

The County Convention, having been called in accord with the State and District Calls, shall be governed by a majority of those present, and except to the extent modified by the County Committee or by a majority vote of the County Convention, by the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

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### Article Four

#### **1. Amendments to these Rules:**

These rules may be amended by the vote of two thirds (2/3) of a quorum present at a duly called County Convention. Written notice of the convention and a copy of the proposed change must be submitted at least twelve (12) days prior to the convention.

The amended Rules shall become effective upon adjournment of the Convention and the filing with the appropriate groups/organizations, unless otherwise provided in the rules.

As Adopted by the Convention of the Forsyth County Republican Party,



Patrick Bell, County Chairman

Amended and Adopted on March 15, 2008  
Amended and Adopted on March 14, 2009  
Adopted on March 12, 2011  
Amended and Adopted on March 10, 2012  
Amended and Adopted on March 9, 2013

Amended and Adopted on March 14, 2015  
Adopted on March 19, 2016  
Adopted on March 18, 2017  
Adopted on March 9, 2019